

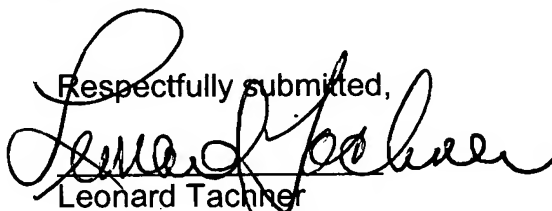
REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 are pending. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended herein. Reconsideration is requested.

The pending claims stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a) over Tubiolo (1,843,527). Tubiolo discloses a swimming jacket having some regions opened to form channels and some closed. However, there are no disclosed structures that can be considered cells comparable to Applicant's invention. To further emphasize this distinction, the claims are amended herein to further specify that each cell is completely surrounded by air channels and is thus isolated from adjacent cells. This is a significant characteristic because it provides a repeating pattern which is both aesthetically pleasing and functionally useful in regard to buffering. In addition, it more clearly distinguishes over Tubiolo which shows no repeating pattern of mutually isolated cells, each surrounded by a plurality of interconnected or contiguous air channels.

Since the above-noted amendment is deemed to more fully distinguish over the cited art, it is believed that the rejections should be withdrawn and pending claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 should be allowed. Such is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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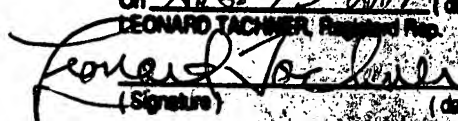
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(Signature) 8/15/07 (date)